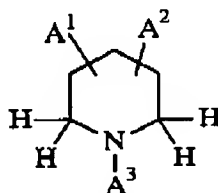


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### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

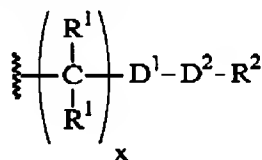
Claims 1-16. (*Previously Cancelled*).

Claim 17. (*Currently amended*) A compound having the structure:



or an optical isomer, diastereomer, enantiomer, or pharmaceutically-acceptable salt, or amide, ester, or imide susceptible to being cleaved *in vivo* by a mammalian subject to yield the compound, wherein:

- (a)  $A^1$  and  $A^2$  are each, independently, selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom and a group having the structure:

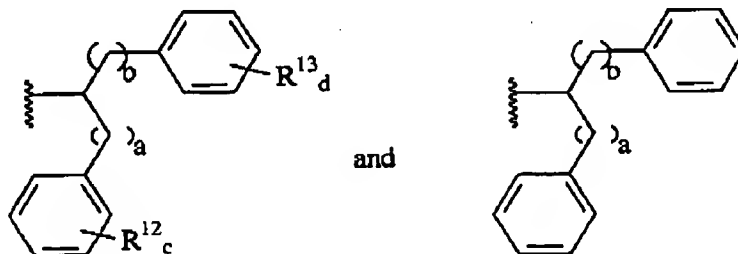


with the proviso that at  $A^1$  and  $A^2$  are not both hydrogen atoms, and wherein:

- (i) each  $R^1$  is independently selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom and a hydroxyl group, ~~a hydrocarbon group, a substituted hydrocarbon group, a heterogeneous group, a substituted heterogeneous group, a carbocyclic group, a substituted carbocyclic group, a heterocyclic group, a substituted heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, a substituted aromatic group, a heteroaromatic group, and a substituted heteroaromatic group~~
- (ii)  $x$  is 0 or 1;

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(iii) each  $R^2$  is independently selected from the group consisting of:

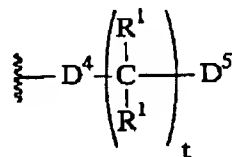


wherein:

- (a)  $a$  is at least 2;
- (b)  $b$  is at least 2;
- (c)  $c$  is 1 to 3;
- (d)  $d$  is 1 to 3; and
- (e)  $R^{12}$  and  $R^{13}$  are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrocarbon groups and substituted hydrocarbon groups; and

(iv)  $D^1$  and  $D^2$  are each independently selected from the group consisting of -C(O)- and -NH-; with the proviso that wherein when  $D^1$  is -NH- then  $D^2$  is -C(O)-, and wherein when  $D^2$  is -NH- then  $D^1$  is -C(O)-;

(b)  $A^3$  has the structure:



wherein:

- (i) each  $R^1$  is independently selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom and a hydroxyl group;
- (ii)  $t$  is from 0 to 6;
- (iii)  $D^4$  is -CH( $R^1$ )-;

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(iv) D<sup>5</sup> is -OR<sup>6</sup>; and

(v) R<sup>6</sup> is selected from the group consisting of a carbocyclic group, a substituted carbocyclic group, an aromatic group, and a substituted aromatic group.

Claim 18. *(Previously added)* The compound according to Claim 17 wherein x is 1.

Claim 19. *(Previously added)* The compound according to claim 17 wherein x is 0.

Claim 20. *(Previously added)* The compound according to Claim 19 wherein D<sup>1</sup> is -C(O)- and D<sup>2</sup> is -NH-.

Claim 21. *(Previously added)* The compound according to Claim 17 wherein D<sup>1</sup> is -C(O)- and D<sup>2</sup> is -NH-.

Claim 22. *(Previously added)* The compound according to Claim 17 wherein D<sup>1</sup> is -NH- and D<sup>2</sup> is -C(O)-.

Claim 23. *(Previously amended)* The compound according to Claim 17 wherein t is 0 to 2.

Claim 24. *(Previously added)* The compound according to Claim 17 wherein R<sup>6</sup> is a substituted aromatic group.

Claim 25. *(Previously added)* A composition comprising:

- (a) the compound according to Claim 1; and
- (b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 26. *(Previously added)* A method selected from the group consisting of treating multidrug resistance, inhibiting transport protein activity, and combinations thereof, comprising administering to a mammal in need of such treatment or inhibition an effective amount of the composition according to Claim 2